

NOTES AND NEWS.

DR. RICHARD SCHOMBURGK, director of the Botanic Gardens at Adelaide, South Australia, died March 24, aged 80 years.

CORRECTION.—The name of J. N. ROSE should be inserted as joint author with J. M. Coulter of the new species, *Coursetia axillaris*, published last month, p. 180.

VON KLINGGRAEFF has observed *Drosera Anglica* in west Prussia catching butterflies—*Papilio Daplidice* and *P. Rapae*—through the cooperation of several leaves.

DR. GEORGE MACLOSKIE, of Princeton college, has charge of the biological work at "The Seaside Assembly," at Avon-by-the-sea, N. J., during this summer. The work extends from July 5th to August 28th.

AN EXPEDITION has been organized to study Mt. Orizaba, Mexico, during the present summer. Mr. Henry E. Seaton will act as botanist and make a study of the flora in relation to altitude and other conditions.

PROFESSOR JOHN M. COULTER will spend much of the summer along the Mexican border studying the *Cactaceæ*. The work is under the direction of the Department of Agriculture. Messrs. Walter H. Evans and G. C. Nealley will act as assistants.

REV. F. D. KELSEY, of Helena, Montana, has been endeavoring to stir up the spirit of botany in his state by delivering courses of lectures in the different colleges. During the last year he has delivered these courses at Wesleyan College, Helena, and College of Montana, at Deer Lodge.

WITH THE beginning of the second volume, *Zoe*, the biological journal of the Pacific coast, becomes a quarterly, and several biologists are associated with Mr. Brandegee as editors. We fear that the publication of the numbers at so long intervals will be disadvantageous. The April number has a lithograph portrait of Dr. H. W. Harkness as a frontispiece.

A DIRECTORY of European botanists has just been issued by Wilhelm Engelmann, of Leipzig, under the title *Botanisches Adressbuch*, which will be of much service to correspondents. A new edition of Cassino's International Scientists' Directory is being prepared, and will be issued early the coming year. Such works are of value in proportion to their completeness and accuracy, and every person owes it to his fellow workers to see that his own address is properly inserted.

ERRATA.—The following corrections should be made in Mr. Hitchcock's article on West Indian plants. Page 137, line 3 from bottom and p. 138, line 3, for sap read *sop*; line 20, for savory, *curry*; footnote 24, for *Rollinia Sieberi*, *Anona squamosa*; footnote 26, for *Anona squamosa*, *A. muricata*; p. 138, line 12, for mashed, *washed*; line 4 from bottom, for ocara, *ochra*; footnote 42, for *Abelmoschus moschatus*, *A. esculentus*; footnote 41, for *Lechium*, *Sechium*; p. 140, line 2, for pie, *pea*; line 5, for roots, *nuts*; line 15, for *Lucca*, *Lucea*.

A NEW journal devoted to plant diseases, entitled *Zeitschrift für Pflanzenkrankheiten* has made its appearance under the editorship of Dr. Paul Sorauer, and with the assistance of many able investigators, including Prof. Farlow, Prof. Humphrey and Mr. Galloway, of this country. The price is M. 15 (\$3.75) a year. The editor is the author of the largest and best treatise on plant diseases yet published, and the foremost investigator in this line of study. The journal will undoubtedly prove specially acceptable and serviceable to a large circle of investigators.

THE CALIFORNIA Botanical Club was organized March 7th. In response to a call from Dr. H. W. Harkness and others a meeting was held in the herbarium room of the California Academy of Science at which the objects of the proposed club were set forth. May 2nd the charter roll of members was declared closed with 99 names. The list includes a considerable number of the more prominent botanists about San Francisco, but a few names are conspicuous by their absence. The club is to meet on the first and third Saturdays of each month at the rooms of the California Academy.

MISS ROSINE MASSON died in Lausanne, May 6th, aged 83 years. The deceased had attained a wide reputation in Europe and was known in this country by her extensive collections and distributing of alpine plants, principally collected by herself even to her very last days. The specimens distributed by her showed great care in preparation and identification. Besides rendering valuable contributions to the knowledge of the flora of Switzerland, she deserves much credit for the assistance she has given to the study of botany by her magnificent collections, deposited in several of the most prominent scientific institutions.—T. H.

A SHORT communication in the *Centralblatt für Bakteriologie* (ix, 557) gives the comparative results arrived at by Dr. George Canera in studying the various forms of swine epidemic, known under the names of hog-cholera, swine-plague, swine-pest, etc. The germs were obtained from about a dozen of the most prominent investigators, and were uniformly grown upon and in various media, and their behavior carefully compared. The germs were found to belong to several different species, and to fall into three well marked classes, dependent upon their movement and other characters. Billings' swine-plague and Salmon's hog-cholera germs are said to be specifically different.

ANOTHER revolution has taken place in the matter of postage on botanical specimens. The act of Congress, approved July 24, 1888, fixed the postage on "seeds, cuttings, roots, scions and plants . . . at the rate of one cent for each two ounces or fraction thereof." But the May Postal Guide contains a ruling by the Third Assistant Postmaster-General by which *dried* plants and *cut flowers* are specifically excluded from the provisions of this act and declared subject to the cent per ounce rate! By what legerdemain of logic this conclusion was reached the official document fails to state; but until more common sense or a specific act of Congress supervenes botanists will have to double the postage on their packages.